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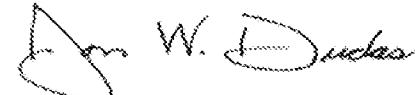
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APPLICATION NUMBER: 60/541,383

FILING DATE: *February 02, 2004*

RELATED PCT APPLICATION NUMBER: PCT/US05/02847

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**PROVISIONAL APPLICATION FOR PATENT COVER SHEET**

This is a request for filing a PROVISIONAL APPLICATION FOR PATENT under 37 CFR 1.53(c).

Express Mail Label No. **ER493129255US****INVENTOR(S)**

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|---|--|--|
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|---|--|--|

 Additional inventors are being named on the \_\_\_\_\_ separately numbered sheets attached hereto**TITLE OF THE INVENTION (500 characters max)****Award Bases Configured as Containers / Boxes**

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**(770)761-9886**Fax **(770)761-9446****ENCLOSED APPLICATION PARTS (check all that apply)** Specification Number of Pages**2** CD(s), Number

\_\_\_\_\_

 Drawing(s) Number of Sheets**4** Other (specify)

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 Application Data Sheet. See 37 CFR 1.76**METHOD OF PAYMENT OF FILING FEES FOR THIS PROVISIONAL APPLICATION FOR PATENT** Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. A check or money order is enclosed to cover the filing fees**CK# 2068****FILING FEE****AMOUNT (\$)** The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge filing

fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_

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The invention was made by an agency of the United States Government or under a contract with an agency of the United States Government.

 No. Yes, the name of the U.S. Government agency and the Government contract number are: \_\_\_\_\_

Respectfully submitted,

SIGNATURE

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**2-2-04**

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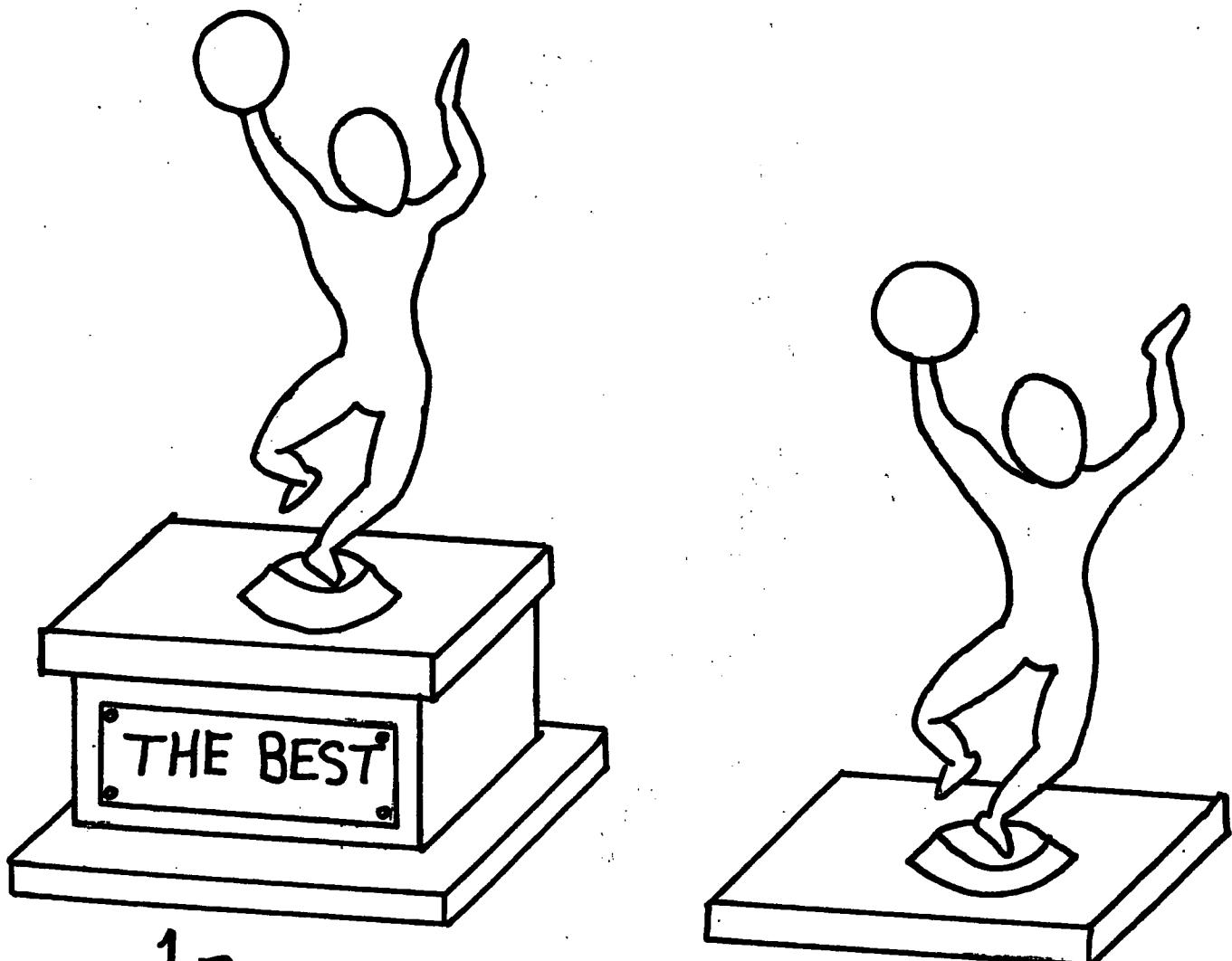
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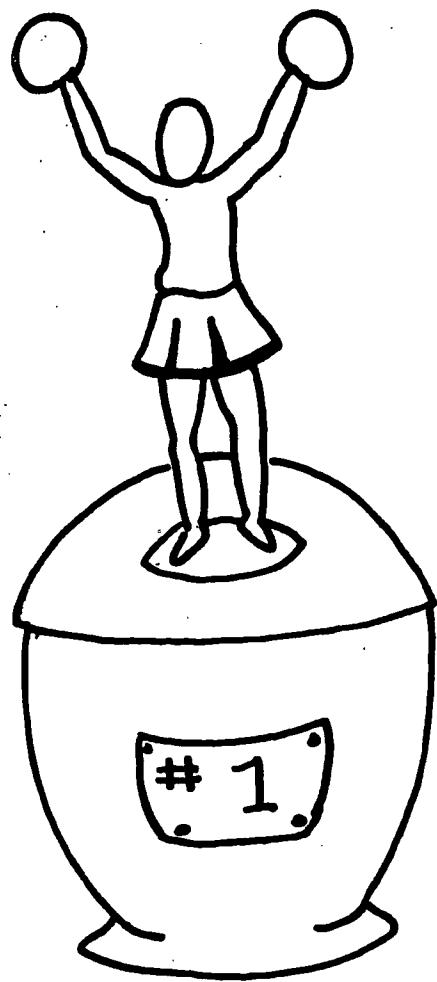
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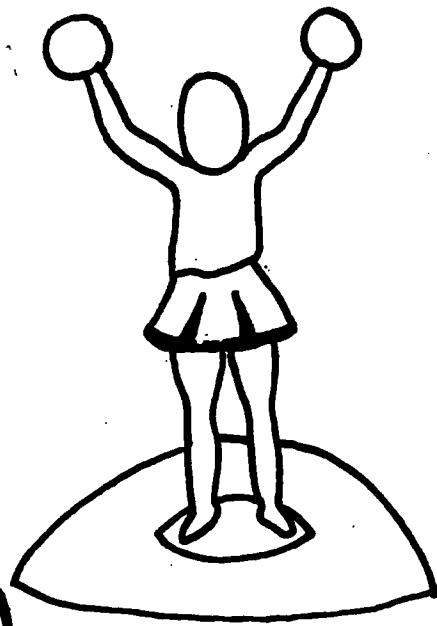
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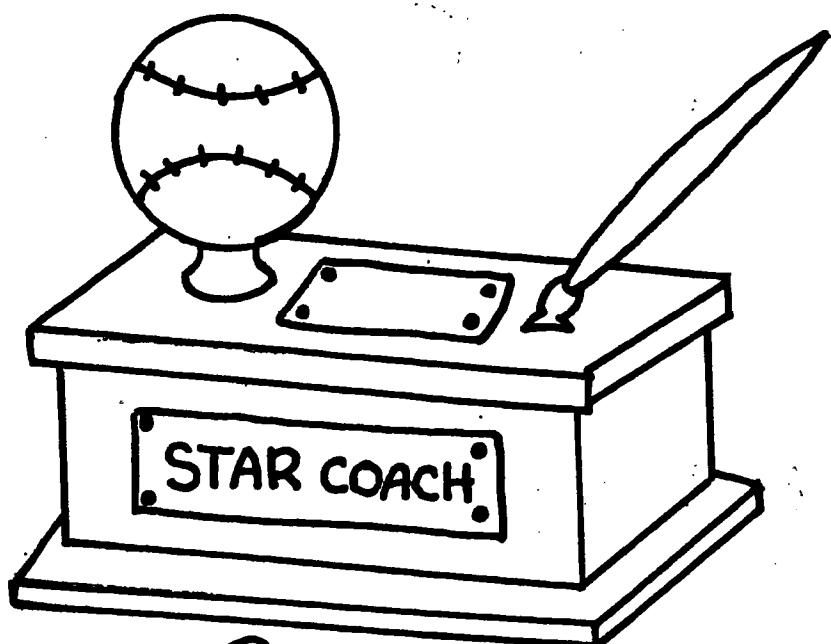
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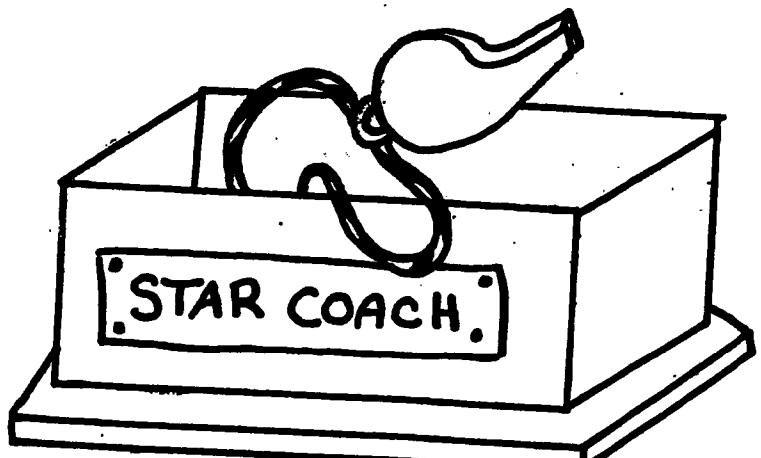
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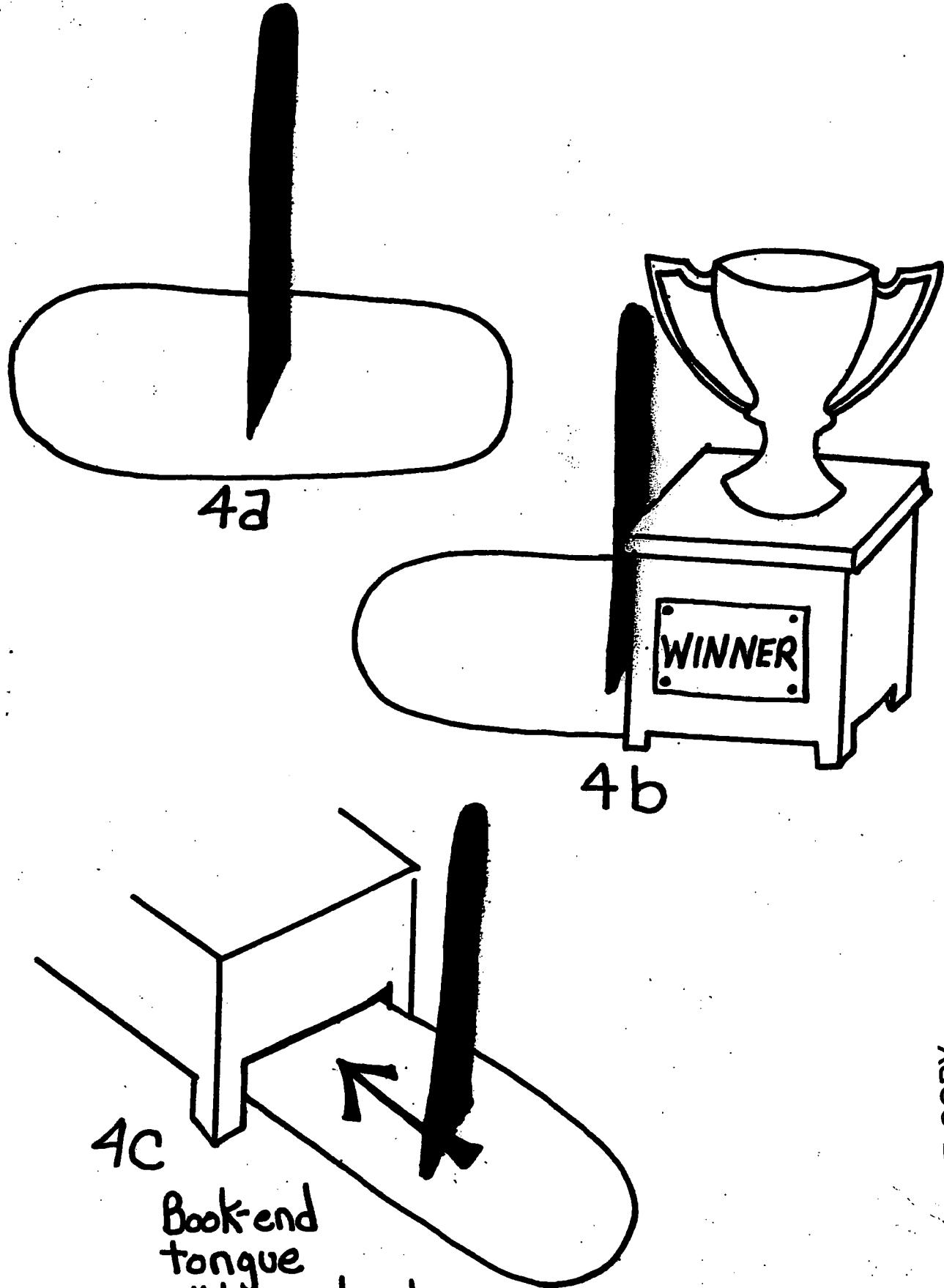
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3a



3b



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## PROVISIONAL PATENT APPLICATION AWARD BASES CONFIGURED AS CONTAINERS/BOXES

### Basic Description

This patent introduces a functional dimension to the established award/trophy industry. To date trophies consist of statues, trophy cups, sculptures, figurines, and the like mounted on a solid base that have only one purpose; to recognize the recipient for some achievement. This invention incorporates the functional aspects of a container/box into the standard award/trophy's base.

**This patent is considered a utilitarian patent as it contains a novel and unique use and configuration of existing items.**

This invention relates to the field of devices for storing and containing award objects, as well as other items, in one convenient location; the base of an award/trophy. Such an invention provides a functional and attractive display which promotes the sale of award items.

While the overall theme of the invention is that of an award, the supporting base unit is configured as a container/box. The interchangeable statues, cups, sculptures and figurines can be attached to the container's lid in the same manner that they are attached to a traditional solid base. The lid of the container base can simply lift off, or it can be joined to the lower portion of the base by hinges, clips, tongue and groove or any other means of attachment. Any number of container and lid sizes, as well as styles, can be offered to accommodate unlimited types of interchangeable award components.

### Limitations of Existing Trophy Configurations

As is well known and understood, people of all ages like to receive awards and trophies. There are many different types of trophies, but they are essentially limited to functioning as objects and do not serve any practical purpose. Generally trophies are stored on shelves, in cabinets or away in boxes. Often participation awards are considered a nuisance because they are awarded every season, serve no practical function, take up space and collect dust. Parents and coaches of older players often refuse to purchase participation awards in favor of more useful items such as T-shirts and water bottles.

Currently, there is no convenient way in which to contain both a trophy and an award medallion together in a logical manner. This invention addresses this need while enhancing the perceived value of trophies by enabling them with a practical function that is useful throughout the home or office. Award items, as well as other objects, can be stored in the base without altering the trophy's basic appeal in any way.

### Objects of the Invention

Provide bases for the award/trophy industry that are attractive and functional.

Create bases that are containers/boxes that support different types, shapes and configurations of already existing interchangeable statues, cups, sculptures & figures.

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Provide attractive, practical award items that are desk accessories, such as an interchangeable figure with an ink pen, mounted on a container/box base.

Create attractive, keepsake storage containers for medallions, pins, ribbons and other special items.

Another component of this invention is a bookend which can be easily attached to these new trophy bases. The bookend further enhances the functionality of the award/trophy.

Provide a storage system and a book holder system which are economical and simple to manufacture. Create components that are interchangeable and can be easily removed for relocation and re-attachment.

## How This Invention Is Different

There are many patents involving various trophies and awards. There are also numerous patents involving containers and many others involving bookends. However, none of them involve combining the function of a container and/or bookend with a trophy. Changing what is viewed as the liability of a static trophy into the asset of a container and/or bookend is a much welcomed improvement.

What is needed and what this invention supplies, is a system for storing objects that can accommodate different already existing interchangeable figures, etc. without requiring their modification and without diminishing the award's overall appeal. This new container base in turn can be attached to a reversible bookend.

This patent also introduces the utility of a bookend that is in the shape of an inverted "T". The support member extends upward from the horizontal base at a right angle. This new trophy base slides into the base of the bookend or in some other way they are joined together. Since the base can be attached to either side of the bookend, the bookend is reversible, further adding to its functionality.

Both the container bases and bookends can be manufactured from a variety of materials such as, but not limited to, plastic, acrylic, wood, metal, resin or composite. The lid of the container needs only to support the statue, cup, figurine or sculpture which are usually made of light-weight plastic, thus the container's materials can also be quite light and economical. The new trophy can bear a personalized inscription or the inscription can be generic, "The World's Greatest..." .

## Illustrative Drawings

This invention may be embodied in the form illustrated in the accompanying drawings, noting that the drawings are illustrative only and that changes may be made in the specific construction.

While certain novel features of this invention have been shown and described, it is not intended to be limited to the details above, since it will be understood that various omissions, modifications, substitutions and changes in the forms and details of the devices illustrated and in their operation can be made by those skilled in the art without departing in any way from the spirit of the invention.